

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury, and members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

My name is Erik Perkins, I live in Mattawamkeag.

I lived in California for several years. California requires background checks for all firearm transfers. Their requirement placed an absurd burden on me when I sold a hunting rifle through the local newspaper. The buyer held a California concealed weapon permit and had already been subject to numerous background checks. To complete the sale, I needed to find a federal firearms licensee able to complete the state background check and other transfer requirements. In that part of the state, there was only one FFL for 200 miles in any direction. It took three months for the FFL to have an opening to complete the transfer. He charged \$100 for the service. LD 168 would create a similar burden.

Maine has many similarly isolated areas - I live in one of them. The proposal in LD 168 could mean long trips and long waits to exercise what is already an unquestionable right. California has no provision in its state constitution regarding the right to keep and bear arms; Maine's is unambiguous. I urge you to vote Ought Not To Pass on LD 168.

Thank you.